

The preparation of liquid 2-cyano-3,3-diarylacrylic esters

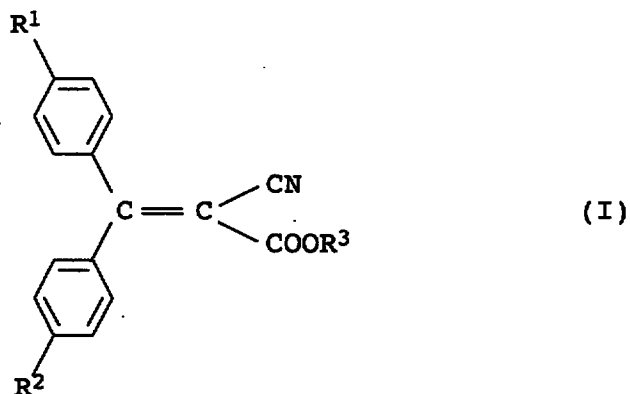
Abstract

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A process for preparing 2-cyano-3,3-diarylacrylic esters of the general formula I

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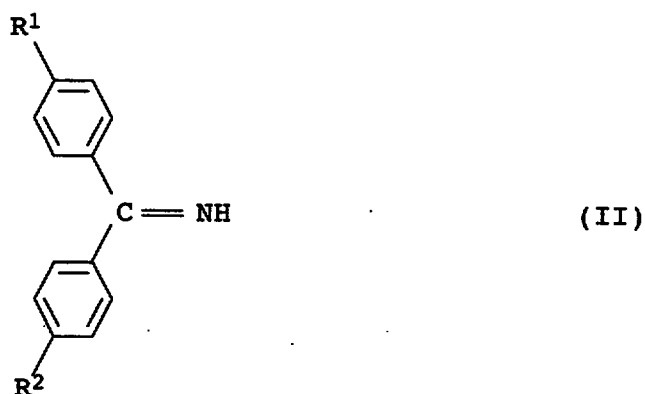
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where R^1 and R^2 are hydrogen, C_1 - C_{12} -alkyl groups, C_1 - C_{12} -alkoxy groups or di(C_1 - C_4 -alkyl)amino groups and R^3 is a C_4 - C_{18} -alkyl group which can be interrupted by ether-functional oxygen atoms, by reacting a benzophenone imine of the general formula II

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with a cyanoacetic ester of the general formula III

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wherein the reaction is carried out at from 20 to 60°C and, during this, the liberated ammonia is continuously removed from the reaction mixture with the aid of a stream of gas or by reducing the pressure to from 900 to 100 mbar.

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